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pounds are not correctly divided (p. 163)—all of which betrays a lack of careful proofreading.

American readers will probably feel a lack of proportion in the use of some of the material bearing on recent municipal development in the United States. The effect of the discussion of French local administration is to emphasize to quite an unusual extent the weak side of the prefect's position (pp. 79-83). On the other hand, the statement that the Council of State is the "center of the whole administrative system of France" (p. 74), though in a sense literally true, needs more specific qualification than it receives. These are, however, minor faults, which need but slightly militate against the usefulness of a highly convenient volume.

WILLARD E. HOTCHKISS.

Northwestern University.

Bosanquet, Helen. *The Family.* Pp. 344. Price, \$2.75. New York: Macmillan Co., 1906.

This book is intended as a tribute to one of the most important institutions in human society. The author has done a valuable work in bringing together the results of the most careful investigators into the early history of the institution as well as a study of the modern family. The author believes if the family should ever disappear with the sweeping away of private property that "it will be in no sense a gradual development from the past, but it will be a catastrophe in the moral world." However, while holding firmly to this conviction, she is in sympathy with modern progress. The institution of the family is compatible with, and necessary to secure the best individual development, together with the proper realization of the individual and the welfare of the community.

The history of the family includes a discussion of the patriarchal family and its decay, the pre-historic family accepting Westermarck's conclusions, and a chapter on the family in relation to industry, showing the influence of economic conditions upon its form. We are especially indebted to the author for her study of the modern family, because she makes some valuable contributions. Having found that the possession of land is one of the strongest influences in preserving the unity and continuance of the family, the author looks for some other industrial basis in the modern community. However, in place of industrial co-operation, as in farming communities, she finds among wage earners *economic* co-operation, which consists in contributions towards the maintenance of family by all the wage earners. Also, among all classes, the author finds a family tradition in "trades," forming a basis for binding the generations together. The principal motive arousing the average man to the exertion of his full degree of efficiency is the family; it is the only way of ensuring that one generation will exert itself in the interest of the next. The family finally controls the forces that influence the quality and quantity of population. Here the author makes the point that quantity is only excessive when defective, and, therefore, it is not a question of limitation but of regulation.

The relation of the constituent parts of a family treats of the modifications in the authority of the father as head of the family; the importance of women as spenders, the widening of their opportunities outside of the home with a realization that work must and will be curtailed to meet the needs of a young family.

EMILY FOGG MEADE.

Philadelphia.

Chadwick, F. E. *Causes of the Civil War, 1859-1861* (The American Nation: A History, vol. 19). Pp. xiv, 372. Price, \$2.00 net. New York: Harper & Bros., 1906.

A better title for this volume would have been *Preliminaries of the Civil War*. The period assigned to Admiral Chadwick covers less than three years—1859 to 1861. Of course he has found it impossible to say much about causes within this limit, so in many instances he traces tendencies much further back, some even to the beginning of the Union. In nineteen brief chapters the author treats of the social and economic situation in the South, 1850 to 1860, Calhoun's influence on political policies, the John Brown raid, the debates in congress, the presidential election and the resulting secession, attempts at compromise, and the attitude of Buchanan and Lincoln toward secession with special reference to the state of the forts in the South. This period has already been developed by Mr. Rhodes, consequently any later treatment inevitably suggests comparison, and while the comparison shows some points of superiority in the present work, on the whole it must be said that it does not supersede the work of Mr. Rhodes. There are some distinctly original features about the work and some that are not.

One cause for unfavorable criticism is the frequent occurrence of contradictory conclusions. This is to be noticed especially in connection with the treatment of the subjects of slavery, anti-slavery sentiment in the South, the necessity for war, the possibilities of the success of the South, etc. This defect may be due to the necessity of condensation and to the author's habit of making rather sweeping statements of opinion. Another objection to the present work is the ready acceptance by the author of the threadbare traditions about the political and social oligarchy of the South, the Biblical argument for slavery, the renewal of the slave-trade, the expansion of slavery into the western territories, etc. The use of tradition, like the fault referred to above, does not seem to be an integral part of the work, but rather something inserted in order not to omit reference to those classical opinions. The point of view of the writer and the method of the work do not call for it.

The author's point of view is rather unusual. It is neither Northern nor Southern; it is purely a twentieth century military attitude. Hence, the failure to understand the hesitation of Buchanan or the delay of Lincoln, the grievances of the South, the rejection of compromise by Republicans, the indecision of Anderson at Sumter, etc. Secession is mentioned as "the con-